

Franklin Township Community School Corporation



Dr. Flora J. Reichanadter, Superintendent

Board of Education:

Randall Bland
Carlos Garner
Scott Veerkamp
Christopher A. Wood
Dawn Downer

September 4, 2013

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commission,

Thanks to the FCC for their continued work in providing a public school district like Franklin Township the ability to participate in the E-Rate program. Through E-Rate, my schools can access affordable internet which supports our students and their educational needs.

Today's child is a technology native and as an educator I am responsible for providing the skills they need to be productive citizens. Today's curriculum requires access to the internet. I am very concerned about the potential changes in the E-rate program and am writing today in response to the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking which proposes changes to the E-Rate program.

As a school district on the southeast side of Indianapolis, Indiana we continue to struggle with the tax cap burdens in our state. I have learned to operate with over \$17 million dollars less each year in my tax supported funds. That is approximately 20% less than in 2010! With the potential of another \$1.6 million annual loss in the following years to come, it is imperative that I have access to a program like E-Rate. The almost 9000 students in my district already struggle with equal access to opportunities that nearby districts can afford to provide.

I would like the FCC to further support the E-Rate program to its full potential. New funding is necessary in order for future success to occur. All of my schools are connected to the internet, however, as the demands of online resources and testing increase so does the capacity of our technology needs. I cannot meet those needs without the support of the E-Rate program.

Schools and libraries will be applying for E-Rate discounts that exceed the available funding. If the application to the Franklin Township Community School Corporation would go unfunded, I do not have financial resources to cover the cost. I urge you to consider changes to the E-Rate program so that we can keep connectivity and meet the expanding demands of technology.

Thank you for considering my response regarding the E-Rate program. I applaud the FCC for its continued efforts to lead this successful program. I urge you to support significant increased funding for the E-Rate program and to ensure that the program and its limited resources are protected and preserved.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Flora J. Reichanadter".

Dr. Flora J. Reichanadter, Superintendent

6141 South Franklin Road • Indianapolis, IN 46259
Phone: 317-862-2411 • Fax: 317-862-7238